



# HF Happenings 542

January/February 2013

South African Radio League \* Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925  
[www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) [www.iaru.org](http://www.iaru.org) [www.iaru-r1.org](http://www.iaru-r1.org)

AWA CW Activity, 10:00 UTC 2 February to 10:00 UTC 3 February  
SARL National Field Day, 10:00 UTC 9 February to 10:00 UTC 10 February  
ARRL International DX CW Contest, 16 and 17 February  
SARL Digital Contest, 13:00 to 16:00 UTC 24 February

## *SARL National Field Day*

The February leg of the 2013 SARL National Field Day will be run next weekend, starting at 10:00 UTC on Saturday 9 February and ending 24 hours later. Stations may work CW, SSB and digital modes on 160 to 10 metres, excluding the WARC bands) and the exchange is the number of transmitters, the class of participation and the provincial abbreviation.

There are six classes of participation to choose from for the weekend. This is an ideal weekend for a Club outing and operating with portable power.

The rules have been changed for 2013, so read the new rules in the 2013 SARL Contest Manual.

ZS4BFN, the Bloemfontein ARC will be on the air, who else?

## *Amateur Radio and CW in the Movies*

Producer Steven Spielberg has used amateur radio or Morse code in three of his last four movies: Super 8 (2011), The Adventures of Tin Tin (2011) and Lincoln (2012). Spielberg got advice from radio amateurs. See [http://www.cqdx.ru/ham/ham\\_radio/morse-code-plays-role-in-new-spielberg-movie](http://www.cqdx.ru/ham/ham_radio/morse-code-plays-role-in-new-spielberg-movie)

Producer Steven Spielberg has used Amateur Radio or Morse code in three of his last four movies: Super 8 (2011), The Adventures of Tin Tin (2011) and Lincoln (2012). Members of the Morse Telegraph Club (MTC), an association of retired railroad and commercial telegraphers, historians, radio amateurs and others with an interest in the history and traditions of telegraphy and the telegraph industry, played an integral part in the production of Lincoln.



According to International President of the Morse Telegraph Club James Wades, WB8SIW, several MTC members, including Tom Perera, W1TP; Derek Cohn, WB0TUA; Kevin Saville, N7JKD, and Roger Reinke, provided telegraph instruments to equip the 16 operating positions portrayed at the War Department set. Jim Wilson, K4BAV, and his son Matt had roles as extras. Wilson also worked with production staff and the actors to explain telegraph technology and the role of the telegrapher in the 1860s.

*"Amateur Radio - entering its second century of disaster communications"*





"Nine of the 16 telegraph positions depicted in the War Department were fully operational," Wades said. "These instruments could be operated in any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and custom built terminal units for the process. When necessary, a hand key could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could be improvised."

Wades, who was employed as a Technical Advisor for the production, worked with set designers over a period of months to develop the War Department telegraph scenes, coordinating the process of procuring the necessary instruments and serving as an historical consultant as the telegraph scenes were developed. He also worked the producers to develop historically appropriate message traffic that fit the sequence of the script; however, as the movie was edited, he explained that the final product evolved into a more generic facsimile of Morse traffic. "Those with a background in landline telegraphy will hear the occasional snippet of message traffic in the audio track of the movie," he said.

*We are very pleased that Mr Spielberg and his staff took the time to treat the telegraph with dignity and respect. It is a pleasure to be associated with a high quality motion picture that can genuinely be classified as not just entertainment, but as a work of art.*

Source: ARRL

## DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, is now accepting the following operations for DXCC credit:

5V7TH - Togo; 2012 operation

S07EA - Western Sahara; 2006-2007 operations

XW4XR - Laos; Current Operations

XWPA - Laos; 2010 - 2011 operations - there is no number in the call.

"If you have had these operations rejected in a recent application, please send an e-mail [bmoore@arrl.org](mailto:bmoore@arrl.org) to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Once updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW) accounts, as well as online in the daily listings."

2013 Pending Applications. Bill Moore, NC1L, reports: "Each year at this time DXCC is busy finishing up applications from the previous year. I have been getting questions from radio amateurs asking about applications that were sent for 2013.

Until DXCC completes applications for the 2012 calendar year, we cannot begin processing applications for 2013. Applicants can still submit their applications, but they need to be held pending completion of 2012.

Normally, completion of the previous year happens on or by 1 March, so please use this date as a guide as to when DXCC begins processing the 2013 applications.

Note: This applies to all Digital and LoTW applications as well as for paper card submissions. Send questions to [bmoore@arrl.org](mailto:bmoore@arrl.org)"

## Homebrew

A pair of European kit websites has come to our attention. Paul, GØODP, recommends that we "look at Tim Walford's site <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~walfor/index.htm>, some excellent kits to suit all budgets and tastes. The kits are basic and don't have the component positions painted on neither the board nor the metalwork but have good documentation and leave scope for appropriate enhancements." Chris, KF6VCI, points us to the list of German kits at the QRP Project website <http://qrpproject.de/UK/GermanKits.html>. An interesting designer's note about those kits is that they are "designed for the European RF environment. That means these kits can handle the strange BC RF levels we have to fight with."





## Word to the Wise

Extreme - the next time you try to explain amateur radio contesting, try calling it "Extreme Wireless." With all the "extreme" sports on the TV channels, the characterisation of radio sport as an extraordinary form of something they already know about might make a connection with your audience.

## Operating Tip

A common question among contesting newcomers is whether they must submit a log for the contact to count for the other station. No, you do not need to submit a log for credit to be given. Contacts are only considered "bad" if the log-checkers can definitively show that a call sign or exchange was miscopied. Yes, some bad contacts get through but the usual policy is to assume QSOs are good unless proven bad.

## African DX

DX across Africa. In January 2013, Jon, TF3ZA, and a team of 15 adventurers will attempt to drive from Reykjavik, Iceland to Cape Town, South Africa on a heavy duty ex-military 4x4 Bedford MK truck. Their planned route through the African continent is approximately 20 000 km, and they estimate it will take them 6 months to reach Cape Town. They will depart Reykjavik in early January 2013 and update their Web site with news of their DXpedition. The operation is to last for approximately six months from 20 DXCC entities in Africa. Jon is in the process of obtaining licenses to operate from the following DXCC entities: CN2ZA, 5T0ZA, 6W/TF3ZA, 3XY0ZA, TU2ZA (pending), 9G0ZA, 5V7ZA, TY0ZA (pending), TJ0ZA (pending), TROZA (pending), TNOZA (pending), 9Q0ZA (pending), 9J0ZA, Z2/TF3ZA, A20ZA and ZS/TF3ZA.

Activity will be active on 160 - 6 meters using CW and SSB. Suggested frequencies are - CW - 1 824, 3 524, 7 024, 10 124, 18 074, 21 024, 24 894 and 28 024 kHz; SSB - 3 780, 7 080, 14 180, 18 140, 21 280, 24 940 and 28 480 kHz and 6 m - 50 094/CW and 50 110/SSB

The preferred QSL method is via LoTW. All logs will be uploaded to LoTW as soon as possible. The usage of Logbook of the World is strongly encouraged, it is free, easy to set up and the fastest way to confirm your QSOs. An alternative QSL method is via OQRS. The OQRS system will be embedded on the Web site AFTER the expedition in August 2013. Direct QSL cards are the third option. Send your QSL card with a Self Addressed Envelope and sufficient return postage, 2 USD per 50 gm. (IRCs will NOT be accepted), to: Jón Ágúst Erlingsson, Álf-tamýri 14, 108 Reykjavík, Iceland. Bureau cards should be sent via TF3ZA. An online log search will be available on the Web page, as well as tracking the team and their complete route. The Web page is at <http://www.dxacrossafrica.com>. There is also a Twitter page at <http://twitter.com/DXAcrossAfrica>

Togo, 5V. Jackie, F8AEJ, will be active as 5V7JD from Lome between 4 February and 15 March. Activity will be holiday style (visiting his son), using a FT-897D with a "AT-897 Plus Tuner" into a 6 band Conrad Windom antenna (used at CN2CDJ; see QRZ.com). He informs OPDX that he will do mostly digital modes. QSL via his home callsign, direct or eQSL. Log will be posted on ClubLog.

Senegal, 6V. Vladimir "Vlad", RK4FF, will once again be active as 6V7S from Le Calao in Ngaparou at least four times during 2013. His schedule is as follows: 11 February to 3 April, 13 to 30 May,







1 to 16 July and 22 October to 27 November. Activity will probably be on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via RK4FF.

## *African Islands*

Cape Verde, D44. Mats, SM7GIB, will be active from Cape Verde (AF-086) from 23 January he will stay on Cape Verde for two weeks. His call is D44TIB and he is operating holiday-style. The rig is a K3 and wire-verticals for 160 to 10 metres. QSL via home call.

Madeira, CT3, AF-014. Dirk, DO7DP, is travelling to the island of Madeira (Loc IM12jr) from 26 January until 9 February and will show up as CS9/DO7DP on SSB and PSK31 on 40, 20, 15 and 10 m. QSL via DO7DP, see also: <http://www.do7dp.de>

## *Special Event Stations*

### *Contest Calendar*

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 28 January to 4 February 2013.

#### QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 1 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 2 February 2013

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter\\_rules.htm](http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm)

#### NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 1 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 3 February 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)





Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

#### Vermont QSO Party

00:00 UTC 2 February to 24:00 UTC 3 February

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF/UHF

Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VT: RS(T) and county; non-VT W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T)

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW or digital QSO

Multipliers: VT: each state/province/country/VT county/VT club station once per band; non VT: each VT county/VT club station once per band

Power: >150 W x 1, 5 - 150 W x 2, 5 W x 3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power multiplier

Submit logs by: 3 March 2013

E-mail logs to: [ranv@sover.net](mailto:ranv@sover.net)

Mail logs to: Vermont QSO Party, PO Box 9392, South Burlington, VT 05403-9392, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.ranv.org/vtqso.html>

#### Triathlon DX Contest

00:00 - 07:59 UTC 2 February (RTTY) and 08:00 - 15:59 UTC 2 February (SSB) and 16:00 - 23:59 UTC 2 February (CW)

Mode: CW, SSB, RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Mode; Single Op CW; Single Op SSB; Single Op RTTY

Exchange: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 3 additional points per QSO with Greek station

Multipliers: Each DXCC entitle once per band per mode; Each Greek station once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 28 February 2013

E-mail logs to: [dxtriathlon@gmail.com](mailto:dxtriathlon@gmail.com)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://triathlon-dx-contest.gr/contest/index.php/rules>

#### 10-10 International Winter SSB Contest

00:01 UTC 2 February to 23:59 UTC 3 February

Mode: Phone

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: 10-10 Member: Name, 10-10 number and state, province or country; Non-Member: Name, 0 and state, province or country

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with 10-10 member; 1 point per QSO with non-member





Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 18 February 2013

E-mail logs to: [tentencontest@roadrunner.com](mailto:tentencontest@roadrunner.com)

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia Lane, Statesville, NC 28625, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>

#### EPC WW DX Contest

12:00 UTC 2 February to 12:00 UTC 3 February

Mode: BPSK63

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - high or low - 24 or 12; Single Op Single Band - high or low; Single Op Low Bands - high or low; Single Op High Bands - high or low; Multi Op Single Transmitter - old or young; Multi Op Multi Transmitter - old or young

Max power: HP: 100 watts; LP: 10 watts

Exchange: RST and QSO no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO on 80, 40, 20 m with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO on 15, 10 m with different country, same continent; 4 points per QSO on 40, 20, 15 m with different continent; 5 points per QSO on 10 m with different continent; 6 points per QSO on 80 m with different continent; 3 points per QSO with maritime mobile

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 8 February 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: [http://ua9qcq.com/contests/submit\\_log\\_eng.php](http://ua9qcq.com/contests/submit_log_eng.php)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.epcwwdx.srars.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=44:epc-ww-dx-contest-rules-2010&catid=34:contest-rules&Itemid=59](http://www.epcwwdx.srars.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=44:epc-ww-dx-contest-rules-2010&catid=34:contest-rules&Itemid=59)

#### Black Sea Cup International

12:00 UTC 2 February to 11:59 UTC 3 February

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m

Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed - low or high; Single Op Mixed QRP; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single Mixed; HQ (club/national organization); SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: HQ: RS(T) and club/org abbreviation; Black Sea Countries: RS(T) and "BS" and country abbreviation; BSCC Members: RS(T) and "BS" and club number; Others: RS(T) and ITU Zone no

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same ITU Zone; 3 points per QSO with different ITU Zone same continent; 5 points per QSO with different ITU Zone different continent; 10 points per QSO with Black Sea Region countries or BSCC Members

Multipliers: Each ITU Zone once per band; Each HQ station once per band; Each Black Sea country once per band; Each BSCC member once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 5 March 2013





E-mail logs to: [bs\\_cup@ukr.net](mailto:bs_cup@ukr.net)

Mail logs to: BSCI, Box 4, Kerch 98319, Ukraine

Find rules at: <http://bscc.ucoz.ru/index/0-21>

#### FYBO Winter QRP Sprint

14:00 - 24:00 UTC 2 February

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op (Home/Field); Multi-Single (Home/Field); Multi-Multi (Home/Field); Mobile

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RS(T), state, province or country, name, power out and temperature (F)

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 100 points per QSO with NQ7RP per mode per band

Multipliers: state, province or country once per band; Field: x4; Alternative Power: x2; QRPp (<1 W): x 2; Temperature: 65 F = x1, 50 - 64 F = x2, 40 - 49 F = x3, 30 - 39 F = x4, 20 - 29 F = x5, 20 F = x6

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x spc mults x temp mult x alt pwr mult x field mult x QRPp mult) and NQ7RP QSO points

Submit logs by: 4 March 2013

E-mail logs to: [FYBO2012@azscorpions.org](mailto:FYBO2012@azscorpions.org)

Mail logs to: Mike Baker, K7DD, 8845 W. Diana Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.azscorpions.com/fybo2009rules.html>

#### Mexico RTTY International Contest

18:00 UTC 2 February to 17:59 UTC 3 February

Mode: RTTY Only

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band (Low/High)

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Exchange: XE: RST and state; non-XE: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country; 4 points per QSO with XE

Multipliers: Mexican states and Federal District once per band; DXCC countries once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 5 March 2013

E-mail logs to: [rtty@fmre.mx](mailto:rtty@fmre.mx)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fmre.org.mx/concursos/2013/rtty/rules-rtty-2013-english.pdf>

#### North American CW Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 3 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Max power: HP: 1500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name and your state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band





QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station  
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
Submit logs by: 9 February 2013  
E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)  
Upload log at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit.php>  
Mail logs to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125 Bartell Road, Boring, OR 97009, USA  
Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB  
20:00 UTC-21:30 UTC 4 February  
Mode: SSB  
Bands: 80m Only  
Classes: (none)  
Exchange: RS and serial no  
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO  
Multipliers: (none)  
Score Calculation: (see rules)  
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 11 February 2013  
Upload log at: <http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>  
Mail logs to: (none)  
Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml>

## *Next Week's Contests*

ARS Spartan Sprint, 0200Z-0400Z, Feb 5  
QRP Fox Hunt, 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 6  
QRP Fox Hunt, 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 8  
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 8  
YLRL YL-OM Contest, 1400Z, Feb 8 to 0200Z, Feb 10  
YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW, 0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10  
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest, 0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10  
SARL Field Day Contest, 1000Z, Feb 9 to 1000Z, Feb 10  
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW, 1100Z-1300Z, Feb 9  
Dutch PACC Contest, 1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10  
KCJ Topband Contest, 1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10  
Louisiana QSO Party, 1500Z, Feb 9 to 0300Z, Feb 10  
OMISS QSO Party, 1500Z, Feb 9 to 1500Z, Feb 10  
New Hampshire QSO Party, 1600Z, Feb 9 to 0400Z, Feb 10 1200Z-2200Z, Feb 10  
FISTS Winter Sprint, 1700Z-2100Z, Feb 9  
RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest, 2100Z, Feb 9 to 0100Z, Feb 10  
AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party, 2300Z, Feb 9 to 2300Z, Feb 10  
Classic Exchange, Phone, 1400Z, Feb 10 to 0800Z, Feb 11  
ARRL School Club Roundup, 1300Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 15







## History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 28 January 2013

1788 - A patent for a steamboat was issued by the state of Georgia to Isaac Briggs and William Longstreet

1838 - A US patent was issued for the screw propeller to John Ericsson (No. 588)

1839 - Fox Talbot read a paper before the Royal Society, London, to describe his photographic process using solar light

1879 - The first practical, usable incandescent filament electric light bulb was demonstrated to an audience of 700 by its inventor J.W.Swan

1880 - The steamship *SS Strathleven* arrived in London with first successful shipment of frozen mutton from Australia

1893 - Edison's patent concerning the "Manufacture of Carbon Filaments for Electric Lamps" (No 490,954)

1901 - The world's tallest geyser was discovered by Dr Humphrey Haines on the North Island of New Zealand

1913 - A patent for a "demountable tire-carrying rim," was issued to Louis Henry Perlman of New York City

1918 - Thomas A. Edison was issued a U.S. patent for a "Starting and Current-Supplying System for Automobiles"

*Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC*

